NETWORK STORAGE DEVICE HAVING SOLID-STATE
NON-VOLATILE MEMORY

ABSTRACT

5   A network storage device. In one embodiment, the network storage device of the

present invention uses solid-state non-volatile memory (e.g., flash-memory) as a storage

medium, and has at least one interface configured for coupling to a computer network.

The network storage device of the present invention is accessible to client(s) and/or

server(s) of the computer network, and uses solid-state non-volatile memory to store data

10   received therefrom. The network storage device may also be configured to include a

memory for caching data to be written to the solid-state non-volatile memory. In order to

provide additional storage, the network storage device may also include a peripheral

interface or another network interface for coupling to a mass storage device (e.g., a RAID

system), and/or another network interface for coupling to a network of mass storage

15   devices. The network storage device may be a stand-alone unit, or may be implemented

as part of a network server, or as part of a mass storage device.